

**Introduced by Senator Pavley**

February 11, 2009

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An act to add Section 4556 to the Public Resources Code, relating to forest resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 144, as amended, Pavley. Forest resources: management.

The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 prohibits a person from conducting timber operations unless a timber harvesting plan prepared by a registered professional forester has been submitted for the timber operations to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and approved. The act requires a person who owns timberlands that are to be devoted to uses other than the growing of timber to file an application for conversion with the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

*The California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2007 establishes the California Forest Legacy Program to conserve private forest lands by authorizing the department to acquire conservation easements of eligible properties according to specified criteria.*

This bill would ~~authorize~~ *require* the department, in order to further the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 *and to enhance the capability of forest lands to sequester carbon*, to develop options and incentives for the management of private forests pursuant to the criteria established under the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, ~~including establishing~~ *to establish, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board*, a scientific standardized baseline upon which to project future scenarios of carbon emissions and sequestration,

and ~~developing~~ *to develop, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board and the Department of Fish and Game, regulations that establish mitigation requirements for forestland and forest land conversions.* The bill would ~~authorize~~ *require* the department to impose a fee on an applicant for conversion ~~or the submission of a timber harvesting plan in order to fully offset that fully offsets~~ the department's costs for implementing ~~that authorization~~ *the above requirement* as it relates to ~~timber harvesting and~~ conversion.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 4556 is added to the Public Resources  
2 Code, to read:  
3 4556. (a) In order to further the goals of the California Global  
4 Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with  
5 Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code), ~~the department~~  
6 ~~may develop options and incentives for the management of private~~  
7 ~~forests pursuant to the criteria established under the California~~  
8 ~~Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5~~  
9 ~~(commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code),~~  
10 ~~including both of the following:~~  
11 ~~(1) Establishing a scientific standardized baseline upon which~~  
12 ~~to project future scenarios of carbon emissions and sequestration.~~  
13 ~~(2) Developing regulations that establish mitigation requirements~~  
14 ~~for forestland conversions, including, but not limited to, timberland~~  
15 ~~production zones; and to enhance the capability of forest lands,~~  
16 ~~as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 12220, to sequester carbon,~~  
17 ~~the department shall do all of the following:~~  
18 *(1) Develop options and incentives for the conservation and*  
19 *management of private forest lands pursuant to the criteria*  
20 *established under the California Global Warming Solutions Act*  
21 *of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the*  
22 *Health and Safety Code).*  
23 *(2) Establish, in consultation with the State Air Resources*  
24 *Board, a scientific standardized baseline upon which to project*  
25 *future scenarios of carbon emissions and sequestration.*  
26 *(3) Develop, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board*  
27 *and the Department of Fish and Game, regulations that establish*

1 *a full mitigation requirement for the carbon stock and sequestration*  
2 *losses due to forest land conversions.*

3 (b) The department ~~may~~ *shall* impose a fee on an applicant for  
4 conversion ~~or the submission of a timber harvesting plan in order~~  
5 ~~to fully offset~~ *that fully offsets* the department's costs for  
6 implementing this section as it relates to ~~timber harvesting and~~  
7 conversion.

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